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## United States Department of Justice United States Attorney's Office District of Minnesota

## **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Friday, May 30, 2008

## Burnsville man pleads guilty to preparing false tax returns

A 37-year-old Burnsville man pleaded guilty today in federal court to one count of aiding and abetting in the preparation of false tax returns.

Abdikarim Osman Mohamed entered his plea May 30 in Minneapolis before United States District Court Judge Richard Kyle. Mohamed was indicted March 20.

According to his plea agreement, Mohamed admitted that on Feb. 23, 2004, as a tax preparer he willfully aided in the preparation and presentation to the Internal Revenue Service of a Form 1040, U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, on behalf of another individual for the calendar year 2003 which was false and fraudulent. Mohamed did business in the name of Amal Tax Return in Minneapolis.

Mohamed prepared the return to include false claims for \$1,500 of education credits, when in fact he then knew that the taxpayer was not entitled to those credits. As a result of the false tax credits claimed, Mohamed willfully assisted in a fraudulent tax refund claim of approximately \$1,476. Mohamed also admitted the total tax loss he was involved in was approximately \$44,000.

Mohamed faces a potential maximum penalty of three years in prison. Judge Kyle will determine Mohamed's sentence at a future date. This case is the result of an investigation by the IRS-Criminal Investigation Division and the Minnesota Department of Revenue, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael L. Cheever.